

THE LATEST NEWS

MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH.

From Washington.

Special Dispatch to The N. Y. Tribune.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 23, 1860.

MR. CUSHING'S VISIT TO CHARLESTON.

Mr. Cushing went to Charleston at the request of the President, for the purpose of inducing a postponement of the Secession Ordinance. But he found opinion too divided and unanimous in favor of it to admit of any reasoning, and hence abandoned the experiment and returned immediately. Similar assurances were given to Mr. Cushing as had been previously received by the President, that no demonstrations would be made against the forts until negotiations were exhausted through the Commissioners sent here. The leaders, however, may not be able to control their followers. The fact that Fort Moultrie is commanded by a Kentuckian, gives it more moral protection than any other cause, for if he should be sacrificed through the cowardly inefficiency of the President, the feeling of resentment against South Carolina for that outrage would extemporize a formidable party to redress it in the Border States.

RETURN OF SECRETARY THOMPSON.

Secretary Thompson has returned from his mission to North Carolina, without having achieved any positive result. His immediate object was to induce that State to confer and cooperate with the rest of the South in making some united movement. In this respect he differed with the Commissioner sent to Maryland, who urged separate and immediate action as the only remedy. Mr. Thompson and some other leaders have become less exacting than heretofore, finding that their scheme has obtained more momentum than was at first designed. Jefferson Davis says it has passed from their hands into those of the rabble.

VIRGINIA.

There is more reason than appears on the surface to believe that if the politicians attempt to unite Virginia with the Cotton States, the western and northern counties will cut loose from the Old Dominion, and set up an independent Government, leaving the agitators to go where they belong. They don't intend being transferred to order by Messrs. Hunter, Wise, Garnett & Co.

A SPEECH FROM MR. BRECKINRIDGE.

Mr. Breckinridge is expected to make a speech at the Democratic celebration on the 8th of January, in which he will define his position in regard to questions which now agitate the public mind. He is for the Union, but requires conditions for its preservation.

SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICIALS—EFFECT OF SECESSION.

No letters had been received at the Treasury or Post-Office Departments yesterday in regard to the resignation of officials in South Carolina. Those addressed to the President several weeks ago were designed to take effect upon the act of secession. Some information on this subject is expected to-morrow, unless the Collector of Charleston should consider the previous notice as sufficient. The Postmaster there never communicated his contingent resignation, but signified his intention to withdraw after the ordinance should be passed. Mr. Trecoott, Assistant Secretary of State, resigned with that condition. If the Postmasters retire in a body, as expected, Mr. Holt will at once give public notice that no mails for South Carolina will be made up, because they cannot be delivered at their destination. All such will be sent to the dead-letter office after a certain date, to be delivered to the parties sending the letters. It is absurd to suppose that the mails will be carried to the South Carolina line, and handed over to local agents there, with whom we will have no official connection whatever. All mail contracts contain a clause giving the Postmaster-General the discretion to discontinue any route by paying one month's compensation. Of course, he must cut off the whole service in South Carolina immediately after the Government Post-Offices are closed. So far as foreign and domestic commerce is concerned, the ordinance of secession has more effectually blockaded Charleston than the whole Navy could, unless the Federal officials conclude to hold on and obey the Government which they have just repudiated. No vessel can obtain a clearance which will be recognized at home or abroad, and any vessel attempting to pass papers that may be issued will be subject to lawful seizure. The whole trade of Charleston is, therefore, struck down at one blow, and without the first particle of provision. Commerce must go overland, if at all, and with increased charges of transportation, which will make the people feel the burdens imposed by desperate demagogues.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA COMMISSIONERS.

It is believed the President will receive the South Carolina Commissioners unofficially, and present their communication to Congress for its action, having no authority to entertain any proposition they may submit, or to enter upon negotiations with them. As he has encouraged the secession movement throughout, he will doubtless extend its representatives still further aid and comfort. To his imbecility and craven spirit it is indebted for all its present impotence.

THE TEN MILLION LOAN.

The Treasury Department received here and in the principal cities, yesterday, about \$1,200,000 on account of the remaining half of the \$10,000,000 loan which Mr. Cobb extended for thirty days. Some \$2,225,000 were not paid in. Messrs. Riggs & Co. here, who subscribed originally for \$2,000,000 in their own name, but alleged to be in part for others, failed to make good their payment of the remainder, upon the ground that the condition of the Government was rendered essentially different by the secession of South Carolina.

All the Departmental officers received their

quota of pay up to yesterday in coin, as a

convenient provision for the holidays.

THE SENATE COMMITTEE OF THIRTEEN.

The Senate Committee of thirteen sat seven hours yesterday upon Mr. Crittenden's proposition mainly. It was discussed by every member present in short speeches addressed to particular points and to various forms of amendment as they were offered. Finally, a direct vote was taken on the main question of extending the Missouri line, with the recognition and protection of Slavery south of it in the present territory, or say that may hereafter be acquired. The Republicans voted against it, and as the rule had been adopted at the outset that unless a majority of them favored whatever proposition was submitted, it would be declared lost, notwithstanding

ing an adverse numerical majority, this was

regarded as voted down. The discussion was entirely good-tempered. Mr. Douglas voted with the majority throughout, and expressed his readiness to make any concessions that might be required. He has abandoned non-intervention, as a policy, and renounces his past declaration on that score, if they interfere with compromise. The ultimatum of the South is substantially that there shall be amendments to the Constitution recognizing slaves as property, and that they may be carried into and protected in the Territories as such. Mr. Toombs offered a series of resolutions at the close of the meeting yesterday evening, more radical than the Breckinridge platform, which will be considered to-morrow. Of course, he does not expect to carry them, but they will be serviceable for the stump in Georgia, in promoting secession.

Govs. Dennison of Ohio, and Andrews of Massachusetts, are here, temporarily, but with no

special objects.

To the Associated Press.

WASHINGTON, Saturday, Dec. 23, 1860.

The Committee of Thirteen were in session to-day

six hours and a half, considering various propositions

to amend the Constitution, and to give peace to the country.

The amendment to the Constitution, proposed by

Mr. Crittenden, to settle the controversy between the

North and the South, finally and for ever, by a division

of the country from ocean to ocean, by the parallel of

the Missouri line, was the great subject of discussion.

Messrs. Crittenden, Douglas and Bigler maintained it

with great zeal and ability.

Mr. Douglas reiterated his former determination to

consider the question for the preservation of the country,

as though he had never cast a vote or uttered a

sentence on the subject before. If that mode of compromise would not answer, he declared himself willing

to go for any other consistent with honor or justice.

The appointment of Mr. Crittenden in behalf of the

Union was said to have been eloquent and sublime.

He too, was willing to embrace any other effective

mode of adjustment.

Mr. Bigler of Pennsylvania preferred a division by

a line across the country, because in that way the

question of Slavery could be taken out of Congress

and separated entirely from the popular elections in

the North, without which we never could have permanent

peace.

Messrs. Wade, Dox, Collamer, and Grimes opposed

the proposition with much earnestness and ability.

They said that the people in the late election

expressed their opinion on the question of Slavery in Territories, and

therefore they had no concessions to make or offer.

They manifested great unwillingness to act in the

absence of Mr. Seward, but as they could give no assurance

of their immediate return, the Committee declined

to enter upon a consideration of his absence.

Messrs. Davis, Toombs, and Hunter discussed the

present unhappy condition of the country with unpar-

alleled ability; and, while manifesting a willingness

to accept any measure of final settlement which would

secure their just rights in the Union, insisted that propo-

sitions must come from the dominant party, the Rep-

ublicans.

The vote on Mr. Crittenden's proposition was as

follows:

For the proposition—Messrs. Bigler, Crittenden, Douglas, Rice,

and Powell.

Against the proposition—Messrs. Davis, Dox, Collamer, Wade, Toombs,

Grimes, and Hunter—7.

Messrs. Hunter, Toombs, and Davis, nevertheless,

insisted on an injunction to go for it if the Republicans

would protect it in good faith.

The second proposition submitted by Mr. Crittenden,

denying the right of Congress to abolish Slavery in the

cotton States and territories, was voted against by

Messrs. Collamer, Dox, Grimes, and Wade. The

remainder of the committee voted for the proposition,

but it was defeated by a majority of the Republicans. It

was defeated under the rules adopted by the committee,

that no proposition should be considered adopted and

recommended to the Senate which did not receive a

majority of the Republican vote, and also a majority

of those opposed to the proposition.

The third clause, denying to Congress the right to

abolish Slavery in the District of Columbia, was de-

feated by the same vote. The Republicans all voting

against it, and the remainder of the committee for it.

The fourth clause, establishing the right of transit,

was defeated by the same vote.

Many other propositions were offered and voted

upon, but all leading to no result—none that would

meet the great exigencies of the times.

Mr. Davis

submitted a resolution expressly recognizing

property in slaves, but no vote was taken on it.

ONE DAY LATER FROM EUROPE.

THE CITY OF MANCHESTER OFF CAPE RACE.

ITALIAN AFFAIRS UNCHANGED.

ENGLAND AND MEXICO.

ST. JOHN'S, N. F., Saturday, Dec. 22, 1860.

The screw steamer City of Manchester, which left

Liverpool at noon of the 12th inst., via Queenstown

13th, passed Cape Race at 6 o'clock this morning, en

route to New-York. She was intercepted by the news

yacht, and her news dispatch obtained.

The City of Manchester has 211,536 in specie, a full

cargo, twenty-four cabin and one hundred and eighty

steering passengers. She has experienced very variable

weather.

The steamship Juno, which sailed for New-York on

the 11th, took \$49,000 in specie.

The political news is unimportant.

The London Times editorially censures the attitude

of the State of South Carolina toward the Federal

Government; but admits that the Southerners have

some right on their side, namely, the right to free trade.

The China mails would not reach London before the

14th inst., but the following has been telegraphed: Cal

cutta, 5/1; Bombay, 1/8.

The report on the inquiry into the loss of the steam

ship Connaught has been submitted to the Liverpool

Board of Trade. It says that the investigation brought

to light nothing to prove that the Connaught was lost

through the neglect of the officers; but it was thought

that more intelligence might have been displayed in

endeavouring to detect the cause and devising means to

stop the leak. Various suggestions are made in the re-

port relative to the construction of such vessels, the

better to insure the safety of the passengers.

Lord Lyons and Sir Edmund Head had been created

Knights, Commanders of the Bath.

Lord Napier has been appointed Ambassador at the

Court of St. Petersburg, vice Sir John Crompton, who

has been removed to Madrid.

It was again rumored that Lord Cowley was to leave

Paris, and go to India to assume the duties of Governor-

General.

The supposed robbery of British citizens in Mexico

will cause determined action on the part of the British

Government, who were awaiting official confirmation

of the report.

The French decree, retracting all warnings to jour-

nalists, is published.

The Paris Bourse was dull and drooping, three per

cent rates were quoted at 86c. 90c.

It was rumored that D'Kanyon Dischayde will suc-

ceed M. Thiers in the Foreign Department.

Italian affairs remain unchanged.

The army of Italy is to consist of 300,000 troops, di-

vided into Northern and Southern divisions.

The programme of the new Austrian Ministers of

State promises many sweeping and important measures

of reform.

The steamship Palestine, from Portland, arrived at

London on the 12th.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

In the Liverpool Cotton market the sales of Cotton on Wed-

nesday were 10,000 bales, and some 200 bales to speculators and

exporters. The market closed quiet and steady.

The Liverpool market for wheat was firm, with an upward

tendency.

The Liverpool Provision market was dull.

In the Flour market, wheat was heavy, Common quoted at

4s. 6d. per ton. Flour was generally unchanged.

The latest sales of American stocks were: Illinois Central

Railroad, 40; Erie Railroad, 30; New York Central Railroad, 75.

News from the Pacific.

ARRIVAL OF THE CALIFORNIA PONY EXPRESS.

FORT KEARNEY, Saturday, Dec. 22, 1860.

The Pony Express passed here at 10 a. m. yesterday,

but owing to the prostration of the telegraph line, the

following summary of news had to be delayed until to-day:

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 22, 3:40 p. m.

Arrived, 3 a. m. Steamer, from New-York; bark

Early Bird, from Hong Kong; 6th steamship, Uncle

Sam, from Victoria; 7th ship, Fair Wind, from New-

York; bark Wilhelmina, from Rio de Janeiro.

Sailed, 6th, bark Christina, for —; 8th, ship John

Howland, on a whaling cruise.

There is little or nothing doing in imports. Trade is

all with the country, and operations for other accounts

are retarded by the complexity of the news from the

Atlantic side. Prices have a downward tendency gener-

The South Carolina Convention.

CHARLESTON, S. C., Saturday, Dec. 22, 1860.

The Convention met at noon to-day.

No report has yet been made on postal matters and

no action has been taken on postal matters, but when it

comes, it will provide as follows: That the revenue

laws of the United States be adopted; that the Col-

lector of the post take the duty of collecting for South

Carolina, and that postal matters remain unchanged.

Mr. De Saussure, from the Committee to whom was

referred the communication from a portion of the mem-

bers of the Georgia Legislature, reported that the com-

munication, as received, provided that secession

should not take place until Alabama, Mississippi,

and Florida, had assembled their Conventions for

first State action, and that the communication was now

of no avail, as the secession of South Carolina had

already taken place.

Mr. McGrath, from the Committee on such portions

of the President's Message as refers to the property of

the United States in the limits of South Carolina, said

that he preferred making his report in secret session.

The Convention then went into secret session, and

continued so for two hours. It is reported that a very

animated discussion took place on the report.

Mr. Klatt's address to the people of the Southern

States has not been acted on.

Mr. C. D. Melton, appointed to prepare the creden-

tials for the joint committee to Washington, was sworn

in to keep the strictest secrecy in regard to them. The

secretary of the Convention was appointed to the Com-

missioners to-day, who go to Washington with full powers. The

Commissioners take a secretary with them, who is al-

lowed ten dollars a day and his traveling expenses.

The Convention has adjourned until Monday.

THE SECESSION MOVEMENT.

TROUBLE AT PETERSBURG, VA.

PETERSBURG, Dec. 22, 1860.

A secession pole, 100 feet high, with the Palmetto

flag, was hoisted on the most prominent street yester-

day morning, amid the cheers from a large crowd.

The pole was sawed down this morning just before the

dawn of day by an unknown party, and the flag car-

ried off. Great excitement prevails, and a collision is

feared.

A factory and several buildings adjoining were de-

stroyed by fire this afternoon. Loss, \$30,000; partly

insured.

TENNESSEE.

MEMPHIS, Saturday, Dec. 22, 1860.

There was an enthusiastic meeting here last night, to

ratify the secession of South Carolina. Fifteen guns

were fired, and the Atlanta newspaper office and

other buildings illuminated.

THE SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

RALEIGH, Saturday, Dec. 22, 1860.

The Legislature has adjourned until January 7. The

effort to take up the bill for arming the State failed in

the House.

FROM CHARLESTON.

CHARLESTON, Saturday, Dec. 22, 1860.

At the secession celebration at Camden yesterday, a

cannon burst, severely injuring several persons.

The slave Bonta was not bound to this port, but

put in here from stress of weather, and with her crew

escaped. She is bound to Norfolk, and will sail to-

morrow.

The secession procession last night was a grand

affair, and was kept up till after midnight.

The Courier's special dispatch from New-Orleans

says that Col. Butler was positively pardoned by the

authorities of Louisiana.

A special dispatch from Washington says that Major

Anderson has been ordered to surrender the forts to the

constituted authorities of South Carolina in case the

forts are attacked, but not to surrender to irresponsible

parties.

SOUTH CAROLINA LEGISLATURE.

CHARLESTON, Saturday, Dec. 22, 1860.

The House yesterday adopted a resolution instruct-

ing the Military Committee to make provision for feed-

ing and transporting troops; also establishing telegraph

lines to all exposed points of the State; giving the Gov-

ernor authority over all telegraph lines in case of war

or apprehended invasion. It was made the special or-